Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111   Attorney Docket # A7254
U.S. Appln. No.: 09/465,514

REMARKS

Applicant acknowledges the Examiner's consideration of the references cited with the

Information Disclosure Statement filed December 16, 1999.

Status of the Application

Claims 1-37 are all the claims pending in the Application, and claims 1-37 have been

rejected.

Claim Objections

The Examiner has objected to claims 3, 30, 34 and 36 due to minor informalities. The

informalities noted by the Examiner have been corrected. Thus, withdrawal of the objection is

respectfully requested.

Indefiniteness Rejection

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 6, 10, 17 and 22 as allegedly being indefinite under

35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. The Examiner alleges that "the term 'unique" is a relative

term and is not defined by the claim, the specification does not provide a standard for

ascertaining the requisite degree, and one of ordinary skill in the art would not be reasonably

apprised of the scope of the invention" (Office Action, pg. 2).

However, Applicant respectfully submits that the term "unique" is not relative, but rather

is used in the claims according to its well known ordinary and accustomed meaning.

Thus, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of this rejection.

35 U.S.C. § 101 Rejection

The Examiner has rejected claims 17 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. § 101, alleging that "the

claimed recitation of a use, without setting forth any steps involved in the process, results in an

10

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111   Attorney Docket # A7254
U.S. Appln. No.: 09/465,514

improper definition of a process, i.e., results in a claim which is not a proper process claim under

35 U.S.C. § 101" (Office Action, pg. 3).

However, Applicant respectfully submits that this rejection is improper for at least two

reasons. First, Applicant believes the Examiner to be basing this rejection on MPEP §

2173.05(q), which is directed to "use" claims (e.g. "a process for using" or "the use of").

However, MPEP 2173.05(q) is inapplicable in this instance, as claims 17 and 22 respectively

recite an "access control method" and a "computer-readable medium having computer-

executable code stored thereon," not a "use."

Further, even if MPEP § 2173.05(q) were applicable to these claims, Applicant

respectfully submits that claims 17 and 22 <u>do</u> recite discrete steps, as both claims 17 and 22

clearly recite, for example, "requesting access for a user to a remote resource."

Thus, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of this rejection.

Anticipation Rejections

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-16 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by

Saito (US 6,076,077; hereinafter "*Saito*"), and claims 17-37 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being

anticipated by *Sonderegger* (US 5,893,118; hereinafter "*Sonderegger*"). These rejections are

respectfully traversed.

Claims 1-16

Saito discloses a system for managing copyrights, wherein various copyrighted content,

such as M4, M5 and M6 in FIG. 2, are stored in databases 1, 2 and 3 in FIG. 1. When this

content is distributed, it is encrypted using secret keys (e.g., Ks21, Ks22, Ks23). A user can

request these keys to be able to decrypt the content (col. 9, lines 18-24).

11

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111　　　　　　　　　　Attorney Docket # A7254
U.S. Appln. No.: 09/465,514

Thus, *Saito* merely discloses a system where various rights can be assigned to specific

transmitted files so that they cannot be decrypted by users that have not compensated the

copyright holder.

The Examiner alleges that all of the features of independent claims 1, 6 and 10 are

disclosed by *Saito*.

However, *Saito* fails to teach or suggest "a second storage area having stored therein an

object identifier that identifies the object, wherein the object identifier is unique within and

outside of the storage system," as recited in claims 1 and 6, or "storing an object identifier in the

storage system, wherein the object identifier identifies the object, and the object identifier is

unique within and outside of the storage system," as recited in claim 10.

Saito is simply silent with respect to the provision of <u>any</u> storage of an object identifier,

or that such an "object identifier is unique within and outside of the storage system."

In fact, even the portion of *Saito* cited by the Examiner as allegedly disclosing these

features (col. 4, lines 19-25) simply discloses a relationship between a "method" and an "object"

and their interrelated usefulness. It does not disclose any object identifier.

Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1, 6 and 10 are patentable

over the applied reference. Additionally, Applicants respectfully submit that rejected dependent

claims 2-5, 7-9 and 11-16 are allowable, *at least* by virtue of their dependency.

Further, Applicants respectfully submit that these dependent claims are separately

patentable over the applied reference.

12

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111   Attorney Docket # A7254
U.S. Appln. No.: 09/465,514

For example, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 2, 4, 7, 9, 11, 14 and 15, which

recite that "the object identifier is a Universal Unique Identifier (UUID)," are all separately

patentable over the application reference of UUIDs in *Saito*, and the portion cited by the Examiner as

disclosing them (col. 4, line 63 - col. 5, line 6), is directed to an encryption operation, and does

not disclose UUIDs.

Thus, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw this rejection.

Claims 17-37

Sonderegger discloses a system whereby a JAVA client 40 identifies a desired JAVA

software component (which is identified by, *e.g.*, a UUID) and looks to see of it is already loaded

to a local hash table 44 (col. 9, lines 5-10). If the desired component is not loaded, the JAVA

client queries database 52 to determine if the desired component is stored therein by looking for

its identifier. If the desired component is found it is loaded into JAVA client 40 for use thereby

(col. 10, lines 1-7; 23-25).

The Examiner alleges that all of the features of independent claims 17, 22, 24, 27, 30, 34

and 36 are disclosed by *Sonderegger*.

In contrast, Applicant respectfully submits that each of these claims recite features that

are not taught or suggested by *Sonderegger*, as discussed in the following paragraphs.

Regarding claims 17 and 22, Applicant respectfully submits that *Sonderegger* fails to

teach or suggest *at least* "requesting access for a user to a remote resource, wherein the request

includes a subject identifier for use in making an access control decision, and wherein the subject

identifier is unique within and outside of the remote resource and identifies the user."

13

As discussed above, *Sonderegger* is directed towards the retrieval of JAVA components by a JAVA client. *Sonderegger* never discloses any ability or functionality to "request access for a user to a remote resource," as the user's access is simply not considered in *Sonderegger*.

Further, there is no teaching or suggestion of any ability or functionality to make "an access control decision," as *Sonderegger* does not make access control decisions relative to its database 52, which is never disclosed as being inaccessible to JAVA client 40 should it need additional JAVA components.

Regarding claim 24, Applicant respectfully submits that *Sonderegger* fails to teach or suggest *at least* "establishing a secure communication path between a reference monitor protecting the object and a resource manager having information describing the user, in response to a request by the user to access the object" or "sending a request for user information from the protecting reference monitor to the resource manager, the request including a subject descriptor for the user, wherein the subject identifier is a Universal Unique Identifier (UUID)," or "receiving, in response to the request, the user information located based on the subject identifier."

As discussed above, *Sonderegger* is silent with respect to storing information about a user, or allowing a user to access any object. Rather, *Sonderegger* is directed towards the retrieval of JAVA components by a JAVA client.

Further, *Sonderegger* is silent regarding establishing any "secure communication path" between any portions therein, or to providing any "reference monitor" to protect its database contents. As discussed above, *Sonderegger* discloses no ability to prevent access to its database 52, and no need to provide a secure communication path therein.

14

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111   Attorney Docket # A7254
U.S. Appln. No.: 09/465,514

Regarding claims 27 and 30, Applicant respectfully submits that *Sonderegger* fails to

teach or suggest *at least* "an access control unit for determining if a requestor is authorized to

access a protected object stored in the collection," or that "the resource manager receives a user's

request for access to the protected object, the request including a globally unique identifier for

the user requesting the access."

As discussed above, *Sonderegger* is silent with respect to storing or using any

information about a "user," or determining if a "requestor" is "authorized" to access its

databases. Rather, *Sonderegger* is directed towards the retrieval of JAVA components by a

JAVA client.

Further, *Sonderegger* is silent regarding any objects within its database 52 being

"protected." As discussed above, *Sonderegger* discloses no ability to prevent access to its

database 52, or to protect any of the content thereof.

Regarding claims 34 and 36, Applicant respectfully submits that *Sonderegger* fails to

teach or suggest *at least* "sending a globally unique identifier for a user to a name resolving

device, and receiving there from information about the user" and "sending to a storage

management system containing an object a request for access to the object, the request including

the information about the user."

As discussed above, *Sondregger* is silent with respect to storing or using any information

about a "user." Rather, *Sonderegger* is directed towards the retrieval of JAVA components by a

JAVA client.

Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 17, 22, 24, 27, 30, 34 and

36 are patentable over the applied reference. Additionally, Applicants respectfully submit that

15

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111   Attorney Docket # A7254
U.S. Appln. No.: 09/465,514

rejected dependent claims 18-23, 25, 26, 28, 29, 31-33, 35 and 37 are allowable, *at least* by

virtue of their dependency.

Thus, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw this rejection.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-37 are allowable.

Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the application now is in condition for allowance with all

of the claims 1-37.

If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a

personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at

the telephone number listed below.

Please charge any fees which may be required to maintain the pendency of this

application, except for the Issue Fee, to our Deposit Account No. 19-4880.

I hereby certify that the above identified correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to

Examiner Leynna A. Ha at the Patent and Trademark Office on February 10, 2004 at

703.872.9306.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy P. Cremen
Registration No. 50,855

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037-3213
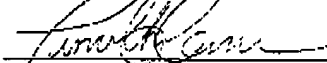Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE
23373
CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: February 10, 2004

16